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10-26-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Richard Alan Haase

SERIAL NOS: 09/733,392 & 90/005,710

FILED: 12/07/2000

1998 Potable Water Treatment System
and Method of Operation Thereof

DOCKET NO.:

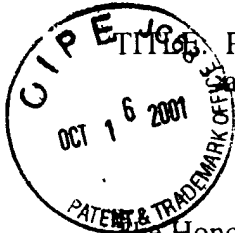
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GROUP ART NO: 1724

EXAMINER: BARRY, C.



The Honorable Commissioner
of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF AUGUST 16, 2001

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of August 16, 2001, please amend the claims as follows,
with changes shown by underlining for additions and brackets for deletions, and as otherwise
directed:

In the Claims:

Please DELETE Claim 9.

Please ADD The following Claim.

-- 20. The composition of claim 15 wherein the polyacrylamide is cationic or anionic. --

Please Amend the Claims as follows:

1. (Thrice Amended) A method for dewatering biological sludge that has been digested by a
thermophilic digestion process comprising:

a. adding at least one polymeric quaternary ammonium compound, as a

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